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Cal Poly Thanks Supporters at 'An Evening of Green & Gold'

By Larry Peña

President Jeffrey D. Armstrong and Sharon Armstrong hosted more than 600 of Cal Poly’s leading donors and volunteers at An Evening of Green & Gold, held on campus May 2.

“I couldn’t have written a better evening event,” said Scott Gaudineer, (B.S. Architecture, 1979), a longtime donor and volunteer who attended An Evening of Green & Gold. “It’s an event that should be held every year. It really captures a lot of this new spirit that I’m starting to see come onto the campus.

“We were honored to be considered a contributor to Cal Poly. It tells me that what I am doing is making a difference, even in a small way.”

This year’s gathering was the inaugural installment of what is planned to be an annual event.

The evening began with a reception in Chumash Auditorium, showcasing student work that exemplified Cal Poly’s Learn by Doing philosophy. Donors and volunteers visited exhibits where students discussed their latest research and projects, including architecture students demonstrating 3-D printing; civil engineering students displaying Cal Poly’s famed Concrete Canoe; and business students marketing innovative new products.

The reception closed with an unannounced performance by the Cal Poly Marching Band, which entered Chumash and led the hundreds of guests across the University Union Plaza and into Mott Athletics Center for a banquet and dinner program.

That program began with a message of thanks and an affirmation of Cal Poly’s principles from President Armstrong. “We must support our students with scholarships, internships, outstanding faculty and world-class facilities,” he said. “It is because of all of you in this room that we can do that. Your counsel, annual gifts, and continued advocacy all make this a truly student-centered institution.”

Vice President for University Advancement Deborah A.W. Read served as the evening’s emcee, introducing a parade of dignitaries who expressed their gratitude to the audience of supporters.

CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White, in the midst of his first visit to campus, praised Cal Poly and thanked donors for their impact on public higher education in the state. President’s Cabinet Chairman Chuck Harrington (B.S. Agricultural Engineering, 1981) and Cal Poly Foundation Board President Dick Bradshaw (B.S. Mathematics, 1970), leaders respectively in the arenas of volunteer advocacy and philanthropic giving, thanked the members of their groups and shared their own reasons for supporting Cal Poly.

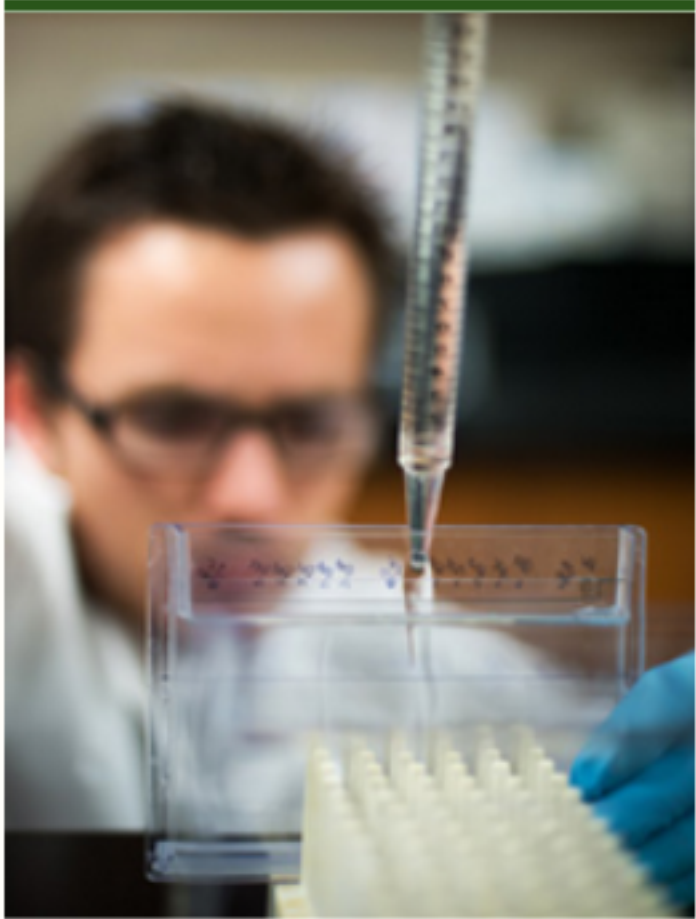
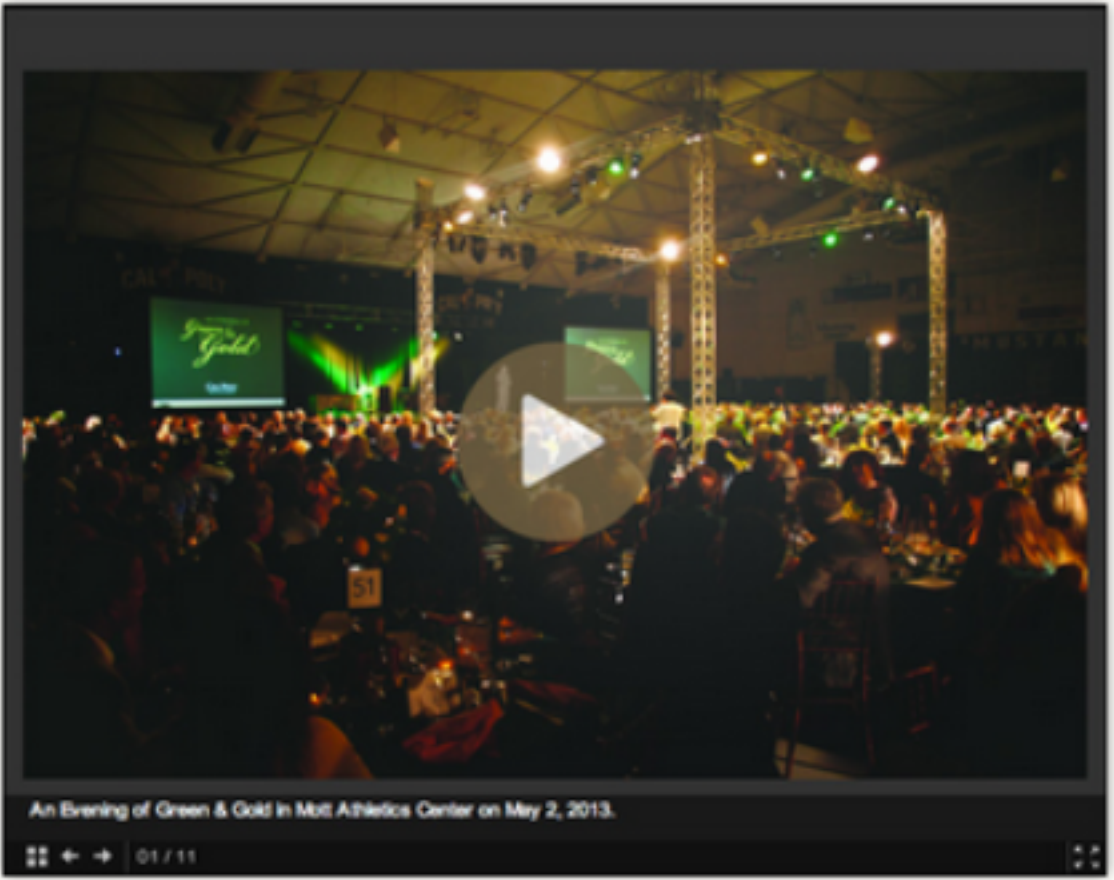
Students were involved throughout the evening. Music majors Kevin Capacia, Trevor Carson and Ryan Waczek performed a three-man percussion ensemble, and recent graduate Misty Moyle introduced her senior project from last year: a choreographed dance number that married her twin academic pursuits of biology and dance, performed by Cal Poly’s Orchesis Dance Company.

Two students spoke personally about their gratitude toward donors and volunteers. Natural resource management major Mario Scalzo appeared on video to describe the moral and financial support he had received from scholarship donor Sonya Woods Anderson (B.S. Home Economics, 1960), and engineering major Garrett Schwanke spoke about the opportunities afforded him through the efforts of volunteer and donor Jon Monett (B.S. Industrial Engineering, 1964).

“In giving, you are fueling within us the same passion that has brought you here tonight,” Schwanke said. “I aspire to follow in the footsteps of alumni like Jon and one day devote my time and efforts toward helping future students find the passion that will drive them to succeed.”

During the program, Read and Bradshaw unveiled the Green & Gold Societies, a new recognition program to honor those who have given \$100,000 or more to the university. They also announced plans to develop a grove at the center of campus, dedicated to honoring major Cal Poly supporters and providing living specimens of rare trees for biology and forestry students to study.

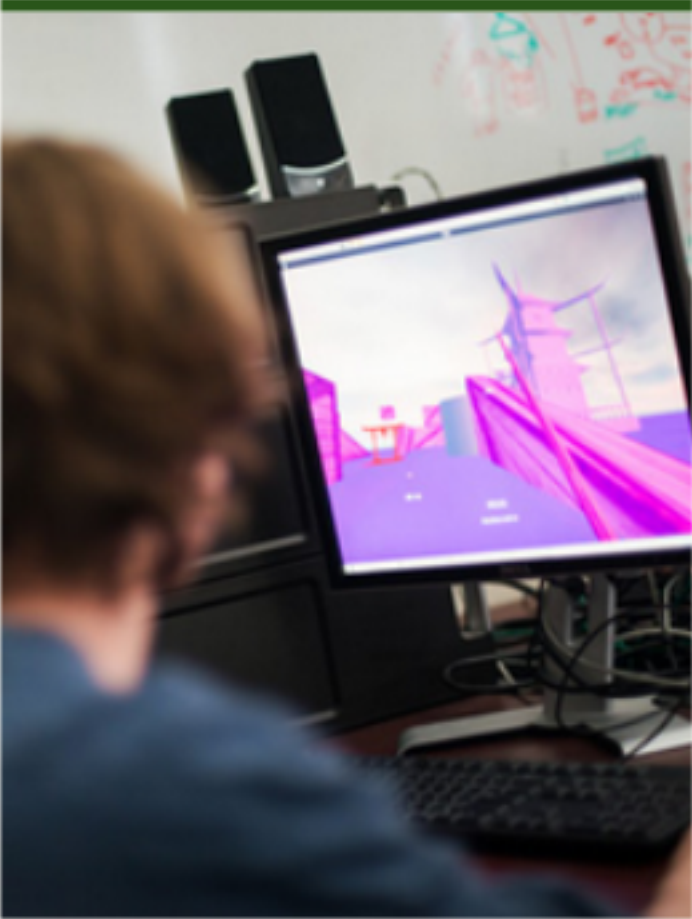
“Cal Poly’s donors and volunteers are so important in maintaining the excellence of the Learn by Doing education,” says Read. “It was an honor to be able to recognize their service to our students. I’m really looking forward to giving them an even greater celebration next year.”



The Apprentices Become the Masters

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Creating Their Worlds

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An Evening of Green and Gold

Images from the Inaugural Event Thanking Donors and Volunteers

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Hard Work Under Pressure

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An Evening of Green & Gold



Students from the Cal Poly chapter of Engineers Without Borders discussed their work to the reception attendees.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Cal Poly's STRIDE Health Ambassadors explained their work providing nutrition education to kids in the community.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



A physics student describes a project exploring the foundations of the universe with one reception attendee.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Donor Jean Sander hears the latest news from a member of the Cal Poly Student Life team.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Representatives from the Student Life offices.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Cal Poly supporters enjoyed hors d'oeuvres provided by University Catering.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Donor and CAFES volunteer advisor JoAnn Switzer, examining the student exhibits.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Biology students presented their latest research into human and animal embryology to supporters who had helped make it possible.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Reception attendees mingled among some of the best examples of student work, including the Cal Poly Society of Civil Engineers' 2012 championship-winning concrete canoe.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



The reception featured beautiful green and gold floral decorations in Chumash Auditorium.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Charles Walton (B.S., Ornamental Horticulture, 1966) and Mary Lynne Franzia

An Evening of Green & Gold



Engineers Without Borders student Zoe Hinck and James Regan, (B.S., Metallurgical Engineering, 1968)



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Greg Schultz (B.S., Computer Science, 1974)

An Evening of Green & Gold



Cal Poly associate professor of music Alyson McLamore



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Emeritus Dean Everett Chandler and Arlene Chandler (M.A., Education, 1963)

An Evening of Green & Gold



Guests at the reception were surprised by the sudden appearance of the Mustang Band and Dance Team.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



President Armstrong thanked guests for their support and applauded the students for the work they had showcased at the reception.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Members of the Mustang Dance Team

An Evening of Green & Gold



Members of the Mustang Maniacs



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An Evening of Green & Gold



The Mustang Band led attendees out of the reception in Chumash Auditorium, across the University Union Plaza to Mott Athletics Center for the evening dinner program.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Emeritus professor of architecture William Brown and his wife Joan

An Evening of Green & Gold



The Mustang Band and Dance Team continued to provide entertainment in Mott Athletics Center as guests entered and found their seats.

An Evening of Green & Gold



ASI President-Elect Jason Colombini (center) and others.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Cal Poly Mascot Musty the Mustang made an appearance and mingled with guests before the dinner program.

An Evening of Green & Gold



A short break before the dinner program gave guests a chance to continue to chat and enjoy performances from the Mustang Band and Dance Team.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Members of the Mustang Band singled out and serenaded visiting dignitary Timothy P. White (left), chancellor of the California State University system.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Guests such as President's Cabinet member Jaime Oaxaca (left) and CSM Dean Phil Bailey (right) had the opportunity to sponsor and share a table with outstanding students at the dinner.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Cal Poly President Emeritus Warren J. Baker

An Evening of Green & Gold



President Jeffrey D. Armstrong welcomed the guests and spoke about the power of Learn by Doing education.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



More than 600 supporters filled a transformed Mott Athletics Center for the dinner program.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Vice President for University Advancement Deborah A.W. Read served as the program's emcee.

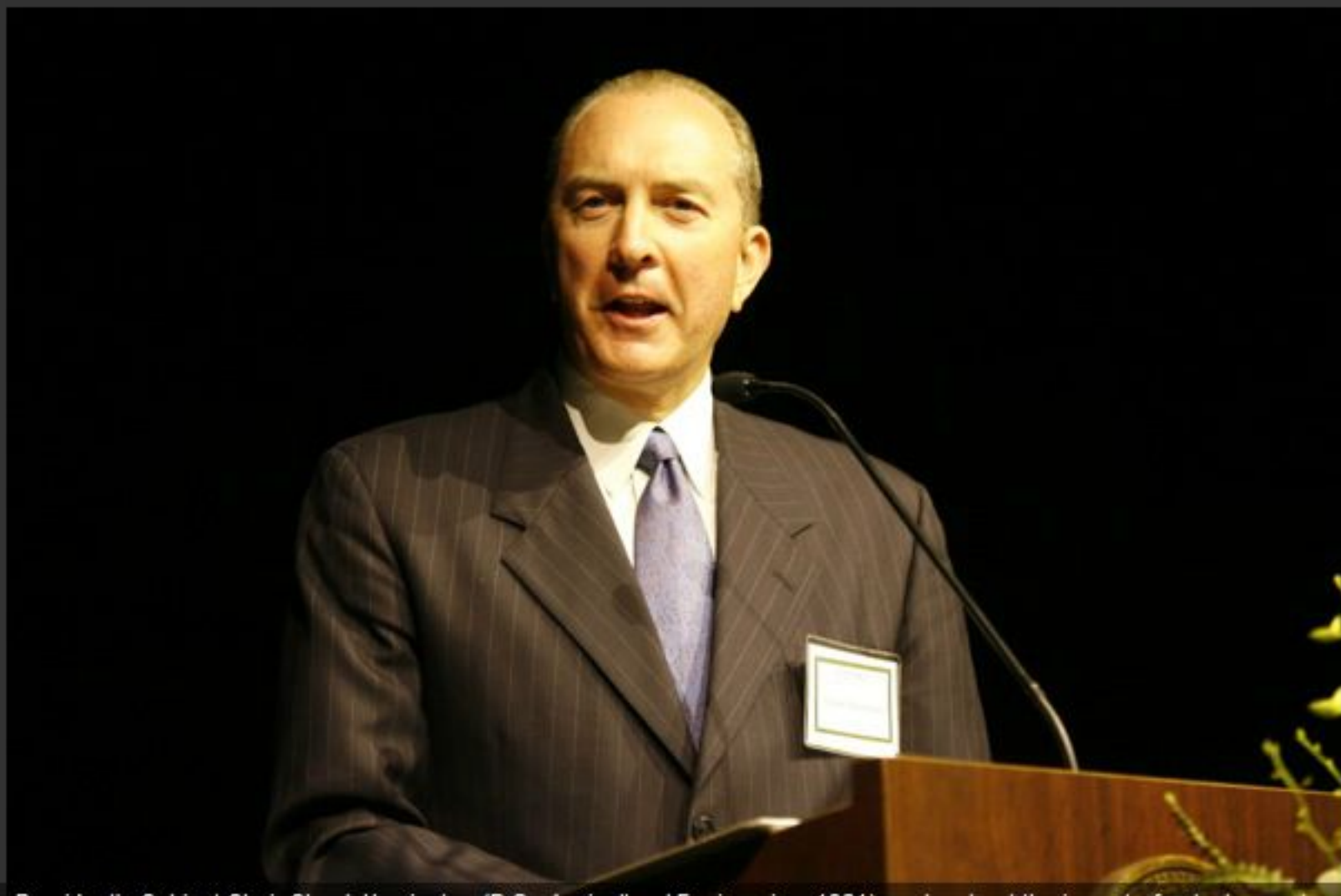


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An Evening of Green & Gold



President's Cabinet Chair Chuck Harrington (B.S., Agricultural Engineering, 1981) spoke about the impact of volunteers at Cal Poly, describing them as guides and role models for students.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Bob Scofield (B.S., Ornamental Horticulture, 1953), a member of the CAFES Dean's Advisory Council, and student Megan Hobbs



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Garrett Schwanke, a mechanical engineering major, thanked volunteers and donors for giving him opportunities to find his passion at Cal Poly.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Rush Hill (B.Arch., Architecture and B.S., Business Administration, 1969) and Arlene Chandler, (M.A., Education, 1963)

An Evening of Green & Gold



Music majors Kevin Capacia, Trevor Carson and Ryan Waczek performed two percussion arrangements at the dinner program.



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Cal Poly President Emeritus Warren J. Baker and CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Cal Poly Foundation President Dick Bradshaw (B.S., Mathematics, 1970) explained why he gives toward student scholarships and thanked donors for supporting the university.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Misty Moyle (B.S., Biological Science, 2012) introduced "This Is What Science Looks Like," a number she choreographed as an interdisciplinary student for Orchesis Dance Company.

An Evening of Green & Gold



More than 600 supporters filled a transformed Mott Athletics Center for the dinner program.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Donors received small trees as gifts thanking them for their support of the university. Fred (B.S., Business Administration, 1963) and Judi Honoré showed off their tree.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Ken Stone, (B.S., Architecture, 1979/B.Arch., Architecture, 1980), Manfred (B.S., Animal Science, 1953) and Jean Sander



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Guests enjoyed a dessert reception after the close of the dinner program.

An Evening of Green & Gold



Leslie (Social Sciences, 1980) and Scott Gaudineer (B.S., Architecture, 1979 and B.Arch., Architecture, 1980)



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An Evening of Green & Gold



Leslie (Social Sciences, 1980) and Scott Gaudineer (B.S., Architecture, 1979 and B.Arch., Architecture, 1980)